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1c866 U.S. PTO  
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June 30, 2000

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Box Patent Application

Re: U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)  
Appl. No. To be assigned; Filed: Herewith  
For: **Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and  
Specificity of Nucleic Acid Synthesis**  
Inventors: Astatke *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.4990001/RWE/CEJ

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S.  
Patent and Trademark Office:

- 1. USPTO Utility Patent Application Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/05);
- 2. U.S. Utility Patent Application entitled:

**Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and Specificity of  
Nucleic Acid Synthesis**

and naming as inventors:

ASTATKE, Mekbib  
CHATTERJEE, Deb  
GERARD, Gary

0942.4990001

Commissioner for Patents

June 30, 2000

Page 2

the application consisting of:

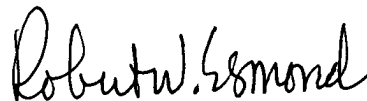
- a. A specification containing:
    - i. 56 pages of description prior to the claims;
    - ii. 10 pages of claims (59 claims);
    - iii. a one (1) page abstract;
  - b. 10 sheets of drawings: (Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6A-6B, 7, 8 and 9);
  - c. 4 pages of a paper copy of the sequence listing;
  - d. A computer readable copy of the sequence listing. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), the paper copy of the sequence listing and the computer readable copy of the sequence listing submitted herewith in the above application are the same;
3. Authorization to Treat a Reply As Incorporating An Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) (*in duplicate*); and
  4. Two (2) return postcards.

It is respectfully requested that, of the two attached postcards, one be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier, and the other, prepaid postcard, be stamped with the filing date and unofficial application number and returned as soon as possible.

This patent application is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) without Declaration and without filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert W. Esmond  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 32,893

RWE/CEJ  
Enclosures

Please type a sign(+) inside this box.



PTO/SB/05 (2/98)

Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0032  
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL</b> <i>(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))</i>		Attorney Docket No. <b>0942.4990001/RWE/CEJ</b>
		First Inventor or Application Identifier <b>Astakke et al.</b>
		Title <b>Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and Specificity of Nucleic Acid Synthesis</b>
		Express Mail Label No. _____

<b>APPLICATION ELEMENTS</b> <i>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</i>	ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231
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1.  \* Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)  
*(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)*
2.  **Specification** [Total Pages **67** ]  
*(preferred arrangement set forth below)*
- Descriptive title of the Invention
  - Cross References to Related Applications
  - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
  - Reference to Microfiche Appendix
  - Background of the Invention
  - Brief Summary of the Invention
  - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
  - Detailed Description
  - Claim(s)
  - Abstract of the Disclosure

6.  Microfiche Computer Program (*Appendix*)
7. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (*if applicable, all necessary*)
- a.  Computer Readable Copy
- b.  Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
- c.  Statement verifying identity of above copies

3.  **Drawing(s)** (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets **10** ]
4.  Oath or Declaration [Total Pages \_\_\_\_\_ ]
- a.  Newly executed (original or copy)
- b.  Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (*for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed*)  
**[Note Box 5 below]**
- i.  **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5.  **Incorporation By Reference** (*useable if Box 4b is checked*)  
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS	
8. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))	
9. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney
10. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document ( <i>if applicable</i> )	
11. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449	<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations
12. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment	
13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) ( <i>Should be specifically itemized</i> )	
14. <input type="checkbox"/> *Small Entity Statement(s) (PTO/SB/09-12)	<input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired
15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) ( <i>if foreign priority is claimed</i> )	
16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) Authorization	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

\*NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 & 14: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27), EXCEPT IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.28).

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

Continuation     Divisional     Continuation-in-Part (CIP) of prior application No: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Prior application information: Examiner \_\_\_\_\_                      Group/Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

**18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

Customer Number or Bar Code Label \_\_\_\_\_ or  Correspondence address below

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

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NAME (Print/Type)	Robert W. Esmond	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,893
SIGNATURE	<i>Robert W. Esmond</i>	Date	June 30, 2000

Burden Hour Statement: this form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PTO/SB/05 (2/98)

JCS66 U.S. PTO  
09/608056



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JC866 U.S. PTO  
09/608066  
06/30/00

In re application of:

Astatke *et al.*

Appl. No. To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: **Compositions and Methods for  
Enhanced Sensitivity and  
Specificity of Nucleic Acid  
Synthesis**

Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0942.49900001/RWE/CEJ

**Authorization To Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension Of Time  
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)**

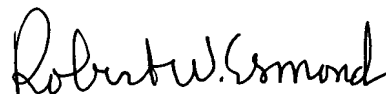
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036, if such fees are not otherwise provided for in such reply. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert W. Esmond  
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Date: June 30, 2000  
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